

# Peer Review Plan for Draft Shasta Salamander Species Status Assessment Report

## About the Document

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**Title:** Draft Species status assessment report for the Shasta salamander.

**Description:** All functions of the Endangered Species Program from listing to Section 7 consultation to recovery planning will rely on this document as a basis for synthesizing the status of the species in a rigorous, scientific manner. As such, the Species status assessment (SSA) report will be a living document upon which many other documents such as listing rules, recovery plans, and 5-year reviews will be based.

**Estimated Date of the final Document:** October 2020

## About the Peer Review Process

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**Type of review:** Letters

**Anticipated Number of Reviewers:** Minimum of three (3)

**Reviewer Selection Method:** Pacific Southwest Service staff not party to the Shasta salamander SSA Team will select Peer reviewers. We will select reviewers who are unlikely to experience personal gain or loss as a result of the Service's decision. Peer reviewers will not be compensated for their time, and Service employees will not be used for this peer review.

**Expertise needed in the Peer Review:** The Service will solicit reviews and comments from subject area experts who are willing to commit to providing an objective written scientific review of the draft SSA report within the needed time frame. Selections of peer reviewers will be based on their knowledge and expertise of the two species and their habitat, including biology, conservation, and ecology. They will include field biologists that are familiar with the area where the species occurs.

**Estimated Peer Review Timeframe:** August 2020 to September 2020

**Will the public and/or scientific or professional societies be asked to nominate peer reviewers?** No

**Are waivers or deferrals being invoked?** No

**Estimated Start Date of Peer Review:** August 2020

## **About Public Participation**

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This peer review plan is made available to allow the public to monitor our compliance with the Office of Management and Budget's Final Information Quality Bulletin for Peer Review. The final SSA Report is not a decision document requiring public review. However, the final version will be made available to the public through direct mail to interested parties and posts on Service websites.

## **Contact**

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